

Current Operations



While visitors are most likely to interact with staff at one of the seashore's visitor centers, there are many other employees at Point Reyes National Seashore who perform tasks critical to the park accomplishing its mission. A goal of the business plan is to evaluate the strategic allocation of resources in a manner that is comparable across parks nationwide. A universal list of six functional areas excluding investments and non-operations activities enables cross-park unit comparison. These functional areas are based on the grouping of various programs that are the responsibility of a park to perform, such as volunteer programs, contracting, and cultural resource management.

Functional areas do not necessarily match the organizational structure of the park, thus, the business plan process has enabled park management to fully capture the costs associated with program areas that span divisions. For example, volunteer programs are critical to the seashore's operations and are operated independently in multiple divisions. The business plan captures all labor and other expenditures related to management of volunteer programs—including development and announcement of volunteer opportunities, recognition programs, relationship management with partner organizations, and annual reporting—as expenses associated with Park Administration,



A volunteer sets up a viewing scope at the Tomales Point Elk Reserve. PHOTO BY KRISTIN GILLISS

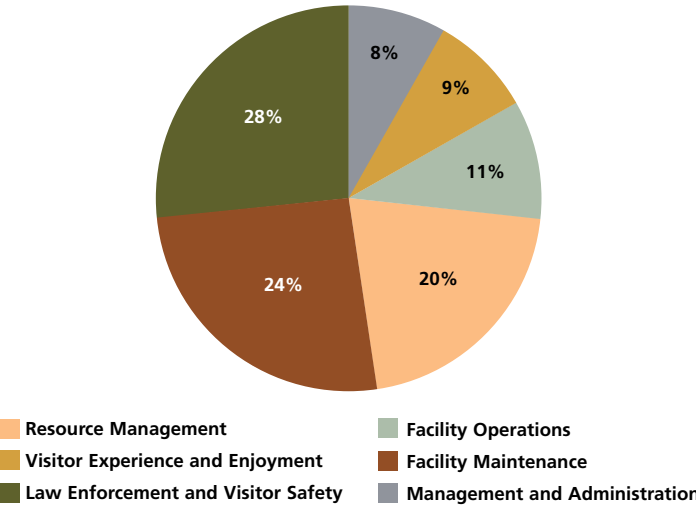
Opposite: Sierra Club members work on a Point Reyes coastal dune restoration project. NPS PHOTO

although staff performing these duties may work on the Trail Crew overseeing the Adopt-A-Trail program or in Interpretation managing the Snowy Plover Docent program.

Expenditures associated with the following functional areas exclude labor and other expenses connected to one-time projects or investments and external support services. Expenditures associated with projects such as the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project are significant one-time costs which parks incur in order to solve current problems or provide for future park development. Expenditures associated with support services provided to other parks and agencies are also excluded from this analysis. These are programs for which the national seashore receives network funding, such as the inventory and monitoring program for the San Francisco Bay Area Network.

In Fiscal Year 2006 Point Reyes National Seashore operated with 115 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, including seasonal employees. An FTE is equal to 2,080 hours of work per year. The national seashore was also supported by network-funded positions, grant-funded individuals, and volunteers. The following pages detail the operating functions of the national seashore.

Point Reyes National Seashore
Fiscal Year 2006 Operational Expenditures



Management and Administration: Fiscal Year 2006 – \$782,739

Administration is responsible for facilitating park operations through functions such as finance, human resources, contracting, concessions and fee management, and information technology. Additionally, business management handles parkwide planning and safety, volunteer programs, partnerships, and external affairs.

Facility Operations: Fiscal Year 2006 – \$1,116,430

Facility Maintenance: Fiscal Year 2006 – \$2,337,397

Point Reyes National Seashore operates and maintains 700 assets and asset features. Assets include buildings, historic structures, roads and trails, potable water systems, and wastewater systems. The park strives to be a leader in sustainable development and design. Facilities Operations includes tasks that are necessary for the immediate use of a resource. Facilities Maintenance includes activities required to prolong the life of an asset for continued use in the future.

Law Enforcement and Visitor Safety: Fiscal Year 2006 – \$1,056,082

Wildland Fire Management: Fiscal Year 2006 – \$1,660,251

Law Enforcement includes front- and backcountry patrol, marine operations, and marijuana control. Law Enforcement rangers monitor buildings, campgrounds, trails, and parts of the Tomales Bay and Pacific Ocean shore. This function also includes Wildland Fire Management, which is responsible for emergency fire response and fire planning.

Resource Management: Fiscal Year 2006 – \$1,948,202

Point Reyes National Seashore preserves and protects both natural and cultural resources. Managing these resources includes activities such as monitoring special status species, restoring natural hydrologic and ecological processes, and archiving archeological discoveries. Point Reyes National Seashore also operates one of 17 Research Learning Centers and has a robust science program.

Visitor Experience and Enjoyment: Fiscal Year 2006 – \$827,759

This function is responsible for interacting with the public through interpretation, environmental education, and visitor center operations. As the most visible part of national seashore operations, this function is responsible for providing for visitor enjoyment and for helping people to make connections to the resources of Point Reyes National Seashore.